

THE MAROON TIGER

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE . ATLANTA, GA

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Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream': Same Script, Different Cast

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Passionate lovers and enchanting fairies made for nights of fine entertainment this past weekend as the Spelman College Department of Drama and Dance presented Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at their Rockefeller, Jr.'s Fine Arts Theater.

Director Chaletia Williams produced what was a modern rendition of the Renaissance curtain-raiser, with a cast of Spelman's most talented thespians.

The story of lovebirds Hermia and Lysander who steal away into a forest in hopes of marrying despite Athenian rule and are thusly tormented by the spells of a sinister fairy, was impeccably recounted by the stellar troop. They managed to truly capture the essence of Shakespeare with their tongues—which seemed to be effortlessly versed in 16th century speak—while also infusing a tastefully unique flare that wooed audiences.

The cast showed a remarkable level of finesse and chemistry that made evident the countless hours they devoted to rehearsal. Maria Goldsmith, assistant to the director said, "It was truly an amazing experience to share the past month with such talented and professional individuals. Their dedication and passion for the theater truly shows that they were all born to do great things—it was a pleasure."

And pleasure it was, indeed. Job well done!

Tigers Pick Up Two More Wins and Two More Losses

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The Morehouse College Maroon Tigers baseball team is coming off two losses to Claflin University after two convincing wins against Clark Atlanta University. The team's current record is 18-17 with three remaining teams to play before the SIAC Tournament.

Morehouse faced conference rival Clark Atlanta University in a doubleheader on April 2 and defeated the Panthers handily in both contests, 15-4 and 17-7. The Maroon Tigers produced an abundance of hits during the two contests and played well in every aspect of the game. Head coach Robert Mitchell said the team couldn't do anything wrong during the two wins and pitcher Anthony Cousins said Clark Atlanta was inferior and Morehouse had a good all-around effort.

"I don't consider Clark to be competition," Cousins said. "These were two wins we really needed and the team displayed a good all around team effort. We hit the ball very well and had great pitching."

Next, Morehouse hosted Claflin University in a doubleheader on April 6. Claflin defeated Morehouse in both contests, 6-5 and 13-4. Claflin overcame a 4-2 Tigers' lead to attain a victory in the first game. Hank McCladdie pitched well in the loss and Jason Mills hit a pitch-hit home run. Cousins said the team played terribly in the second game and Mitchell was disappointed in the team's performance as well.

Mitchell and Cousins believe the team must improve upon their weaknesses to achieve success in the upcoming SIAC Tournament.

"2 Wins 2 Losses" contin. on page 8 ►

40th Anniversary Commemorative Convocation: A Historic Moment for Morehouse College

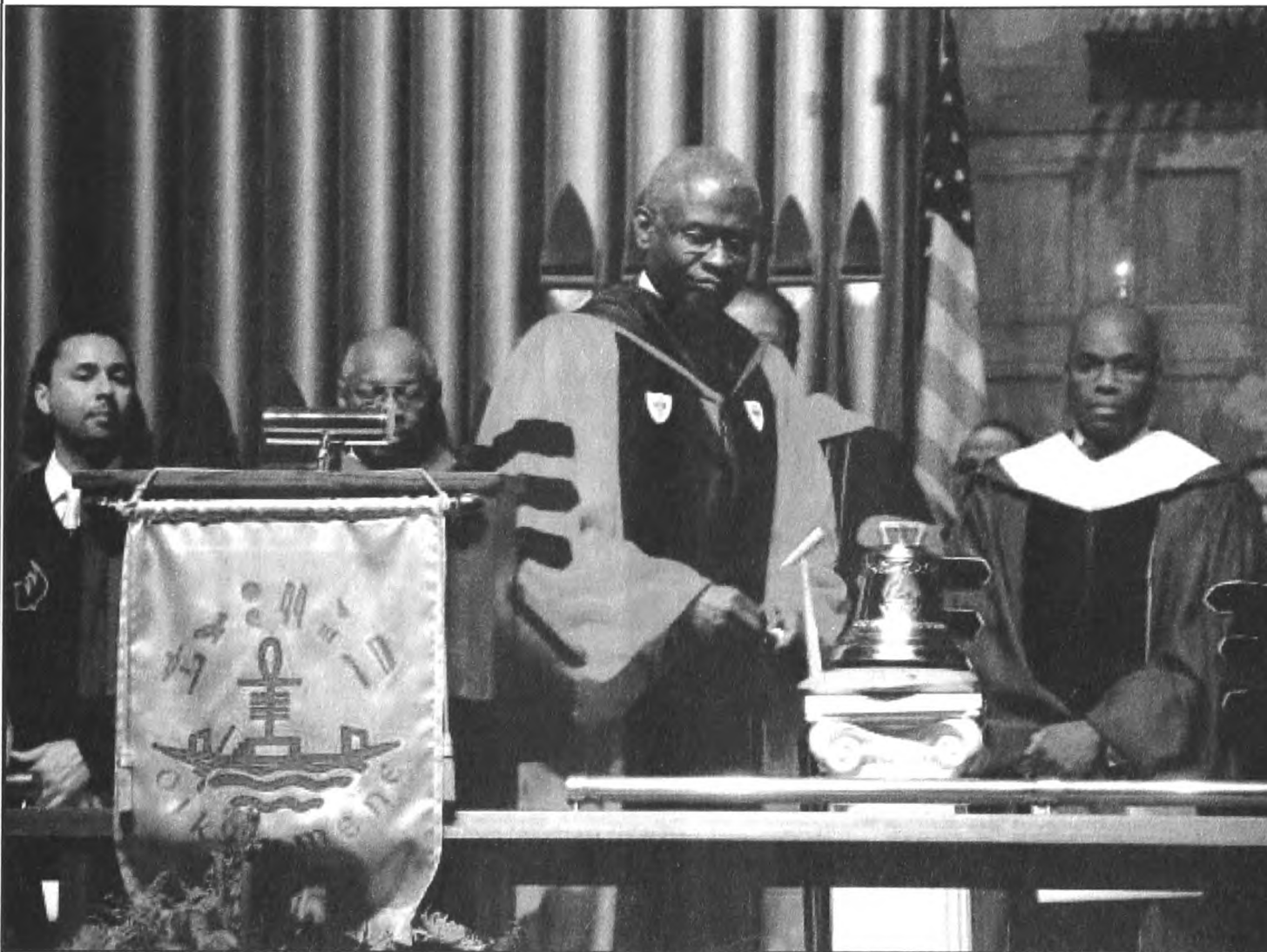


Image: Jacques E. Pape
Dean Lawrence Edward Carter Sr. rings a ceremonial bell during last week's Crown Forum. The next day, a special convocation was held to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

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Forty years ago on April 4th, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. '48 was assassinated at approximately 6:01 pm. Forty years after on April 4th 2008, his alma mater Morehouse College celebrated his life by inducting 10 men into the newly established Martin Luther King Jr. International Board of Renaissance Leaders.

The Martin Luther King Jr. International Board of Renaissance Leaders was created to recognize and honor those who embody the ideal of creative maladjustment that Dr. King often lectured about during his crusade for peace. The ten distinguished men were as follow: Kent

Amos, Humanitarian Service; Bill Duffy, Sports Management; Philip Emeagwali, Science and Technology; William R. Martin, Law; Raymond J. McGuire, Investment Banking; R. Donahue Peebles, Real Estate Development; Charles B. Rangel, Politics; Michael V. Roberts, Entrepreneurship; Blair Underwood, Entertainment; and Keith Wyche, Corporate Leadership.

To add to this extraordinary occasion, the Reverend Dr. Charles Gilchrist Adams addressed the crowd with his well-known speech "Where Are the Men?" For some, this was not the first or second time that they heard the speech but its message rang as loud and clear as the first time.

In his keynote address, Adams called for black men to come out of hiding and become visible, viable and victorious. He

further stated that too many black men are sitting passively allowing things to happen.

"The whole world is waiting for you to stand up," Adams said.

The members in the audience rose to their feet as he closed his speech by challenging the notion that there was no civilization within the black race before the colonial period. Adams told the crowd that there was religion, art and law in Egypt long before Europe. He pointed out to the audience that for every prominent and heroic white figure known in world history there was a black prominent and heroic figure who corresponded.

"Show me Joan of Arc and I will show you Harriet Tubman," Adams said. "Show

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"King" Premieres in King Chapel

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This past Thursday at King Chapel, "King," the documentary highlighting the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was previewed for students and guests. The event was hosted by the History Channel and Comcast. In attendance were prominent names such as Tom Brokaw of NBC News, Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin and Juanita Abernathy, wife of Ralph D. Abernathy. Family members of the late Martin Luther King Jr. including the late reverend's sister Christine King Farris and his children Martin Luther King III, Bernice King, and Andrea King were also present.

Guests were able to see a thirty minute excerpt of the two hour documentary followed by a panel discussion on the legacy of Dr. King involving Tom Brokaw, Martin Luther King III, Reginald McKinley, a senior triple major at Morehouse College and Murial Archibald, president elect at Spelman College. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Steve Guillen of the History Channel.

"It was very provocative," said Willie Francois, junior religion and history

double major. "It really encouraged me to make sure I'm in front of the TV to see it in its entirety."

Tom Brokaw, who also hosted and conducted interviews on the documentary, expressed his appreciation of Dr. King. "There were some reinforced feelings about Dr. King. He is a larger figure for me now than then; he will live forever in the history of this country. To me, he is a founding father of this country in the 20th century," Brokaw said.

Many people in attendance raised their personal concerns about whether this generation could continue or accomplish the dream of King. Reginald McKinley suggested that there is a realistic optimism, and Martin Luther King III agreed. "While we have come a long way, we have not gone as far as we need to," explained King III, "but there has been a consciousness aroused on campuses across America; there seems to be a movement."

Another important question that was raised was the question of how, 40 years later, would King feel about today's America? "Martin Luther King Jr. would be pleased that there are individuals in corporate America who are African-American but would be disappointed in

the masses of people living in poverty. The three main goals of my father were to eradicate racism, poverty and militarism. With race, we have made some significant strides, but in terms of poverty and militarism, we have gone backwards," King III said. "There are 36 million Americans in poverty, 12 million of them being children; we need to restructure the system of money and put it into poverty. "The systems of education, housing and healthcare need to be revamped and we need to ensure that justice insists. Yet, it is very exciting that young people are engaged in affairs."

"I am saddened by the fact that we are not taking care of the people in America. We are spending billions of dollars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but Americans are struggling. We preach peace and practice war, an inconsistent message; we are focused on death and destruction and not the preservation of life," he added.

But the question has to be asked: can today's generation complete the mission of Dr. King? "I am optimistic that our generation can continue his legacy and safeguard it to the next generation, that they could add their flare to it. The

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The Environmental Dream Reborn

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Over a weekend associated with the loss of a man who had a dream for humanity, a similar group started a new dream.

Van Jones, an African-American environmentalist and founder of the Green for All organization spearheaded the Dream Reborn Conference in Memphis over the April 4 weekend. The conference occurred the same time Memphis recognized the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. '48 at the Lorraine Motel.

A group of over 90 students from various Atlanta colleges and universities made the six hour bus ride to Memphis to take part in the conference and to join in the various festivities Memphis threw in commemoration of King's historic death and inspiring life.

Jones has been dedicated to the new notion of environmental racism—the spreading of environmental values and activism to the communities of people of color.

"Are we going to create a green economy that's whites only?" Jones asked the crowd at the conference's opening plenary. Jones has fought for years to ensure a new economy is formed at all levels based on "green" jobs.

Green jobs are jobs that are environmentally friendly, usually in nonpolluting industries. These are opposed to "green-collared jobs," jobs that require few skill sets in new aspects of the environmental sphere focused on community building and upward mobility. Green-collared jobs include refitting cars to run on alternative fuels and installing solar panels to houses.

Jones's ideas are largely based on the ideas conceived by Clark Atlanta University professor Robert Bullard who is considered the father of "environmental justice." Bullard insists on the accountability of corporations and the government to prevent polluting in communities of people of color, such as building coal-based power plants in predominantly Black neighborhoods. He also stresses ensuring environmental issues are important to his people.

Bullard recognizes many people of color are ranked at a lower socioeconomic status and recognizes the challenge in conveying his message, but he also recognizes the values inherent in environmental policies.

"It costs to eat healthy, but it costs more in the hospitals," Bullard said during the event. "We need marathon runners who will be in this for the long haul... that's why we need young people who will come to this and take this over."

Hence the grounding for the Dream Reborn conference: focus toward spreading environmental ideas to young, multiracial people so they may spread these messages to their respective communities.

While some students found the enthusiasm of the various speakers resounding, some students also found it difficult to digest the continuous, three hour lectures. As time wore on, a few of the students who traveled from various Atlanta schools including Morehouse, Spelman, Clark Atlanta, Agnes Scott, Georgia State and Emory were focused on escaping the room or getting comfortable to sleep in the endless rows of the steamboat room of the Memphis Cook Convention Center.

Various panelists had energy and vibrancy about their own issues.

Darryl Malek-Wiley of the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association of New Orleans spoke with pain and exasperation of the

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New Student on the Yard

If you have not noticed, CNN news anchor Tony Harris has started taking classes at Morehouse in an effort to obtain his undergraduate degree. Turn to News for more information about how this successful CNN anchor is working to become a Morehouse Man.

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Features

Economy Threatens Students' Education

In this time of economic instability, students say they are struggling with higher tuition, keeping money in their pockets, and gas and food prices, and worry about not being able to repay student loans after graduation. Features provides some interesting facts about the U.S. economic downturn.

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Opinions

What is race?

In the past, interracial dating and marriage have been outlawed and despised in many cultures. Almost everywhere, racial separation, no matter how superficial, occurs. Turn to Opinions, to see what Staff Writer Khadijah Robinson thinks about race and interracial dating.

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Sports

Let's Embrace Another Sport

Renaissance Men of Morehouse are uniting in a grassroots fashion to begin the uphill battle of restoring campus soccer. Sports Contributing Writer, Ethan J. Brisby, explains the uphill battle these students face in trying to bring back soccer to Morehouse College.

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Recycle The Maroon Tiger

News

CNN News Anchor Pursues Morehouse Degree

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Morehouse students may have noticed a familiar face roaming about campus this semester. CNN news anchor Tony Harris has started taking classes at Morehouse in an effort to obtain his undergraduate degree. Harris, who anchors the CNN program Newsroom, is currently attending an Introduction to Religion class taught by Rev. John Brown. Introducing Harris to his class February 25th, Reverend Brown said, "We're very happy to have Tony here with us. He's already found great success in his life with CNN-and other things I'll let him tell you about-so he doesn't have to be here. Tony's doing this for him[self] and we're grateful for his presence." In an interview, Harris explained that he decided to finish his undergraduate education for several reasons, most important of which was the example he wants to set for his 10 and 12 year old children. "The real reason is that I have young

kids now and it's important for me to be consistent with the message of education," the news anchor explained. "It's easier to tell your kids to do their homework when they see you doing yours. And that message of continuing education is just a powerful one in and of itself. So for that reason, I needed to finish." Harris began his career at an early age, working at his hometown radio station in Baltimore. After his work there, Harris earned his first television job in Cleveland, Ohio, and at the age of 25, moved to New York to work for Entertainment Tonight. Harris eventually returned to his hometown to work as a local anchor before joining Atlanta's CBS 46 News in 1996. He joined CNN three years ago. With various job opportunities one after another, the news anchor found it difficult to complete his higher education as a teenager. "I think [the lack of an undergraduate degree] has always been a hole," he said. Really, the hole in my professional life. I started when I was 19 and whenever I wanted to finish up school, there was always the next job that took me away. So

I've been trying to finish up for over twenty years. Now I've finally reached a place with CNN where I have a nice chunk of time and I can finish my education without concern about being uprooted." Harris has yet to officially choose a major, but he expressed interest in the school's new Journalism program and said that he may minor in History or Political Science. "I think I'd have a pretty good handle on the Journalism coursework-or at least I hope I would. But beyond that, I have so many interests. You really want to know a little bit about of everything," Harris said. Several weeks in, Harris is enjoying his time at the College. "I love it so far. I love the back and forth of the classroom settings." He added, "Believe it or not, I even love writing papers. At this point, anyway." Harris, who said that covering the news has become increasingly fascinating as a result of the heated 2008 presidential race, will continue working for CNN as he completes his education at Morehouse.

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Send all Inquiries to:
Mtigerinfo@gmail.com

Meetings take place every Thursday @ 6:00pm in
Merrill Hall Rm. 111

QUESTIONS

THE HATER

- 1.) Did she JOIn the Green party because he was too SHEL'd?
- 2.) Which tastes better...Apple Ple or MUD PI?
- 3.) If A Candle in the Dark is your favorite book, how did you not know the author?
- 4.) Shouldn't they make her read a book for her talent instead of dance?
- 5.) Wouldn't that improve her GPA?
- 6.) Quick...Do you know your #52?
- 7.) Did you hope those letters didn't make it in the mail?
- 8.) Aren't you glad you made it out that hot trunk?
- 9.) All "bark" and no "bite"?
- 10.) Will their theatrical pledge process APpear on DVD in a 7-disc series?
- 11.) Doesn't "IS"ata melt when the heat's turned up?
- 12.) Who crowned them the AUC's model relationship?
- 13.) I don't "Dig" it. Do you?
- 14.) *Sniff* *Sniff*. Will they have a relapse?
- 15.) Are we supposed to care about SpringFest now?
- 16.) Is there a "NU" AUC record for career

- 17.) fights?
- 17.) Doesn't he wish he had a "BRICK" when they went 'HAM on 'em?
- 18.) How DevaSTating was it when you found out someone knew your password?
- 19.) Is running for Senior Class President the cool thing to do now?
- 20.) What grown man refers to himself as a white, WHIPped dessert topping?
- Bonus:
- 21.) How many more lame a___ parties are in your final DSTination?
- 22.) Spring Ball or Kappa Ball?
- 23.) What does L-O-S-S-O-F-M-O-N-E-Y spell?
- 24.) When did the Quad become a cemetery?
- 25.) Which probate did you like better?
- 26.) Wait...is their probate over YET?
- 27.) Don't you NUOHA better than to wife her up?
- 28.) No P&G probate?
- 29.) Did they not have enough time over the weekend?
- 30.) Why are they walking so fast?
- 31.) Who's going to win Miss Spelman?
- 32.) Did he REALLY think he was going to be elections Chairman?



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Premiere in King Chapel

◀ Continued from front page

resources that are available to us can make the task easier. It starts with our generation using our social consciousness. We can further the dream with his passion and our resources," Francois stated.

King III delivered a powerful challenge to the current generation, saying, "The

next generation must determine what the issues are and decide what must be done to make a difference." The documentary will premiere in its entirety on Sunday, April 6 at 8pm on the History Channel and an encore presentation will air on Saturday at 4pm.

History for Morehouse College



IMAGES: JACQUES E. PAPE

◀ Continued from front page

me the presidents of Harvard, Yale and Princeton and I will show you Robert Michael Franklin, Jr."

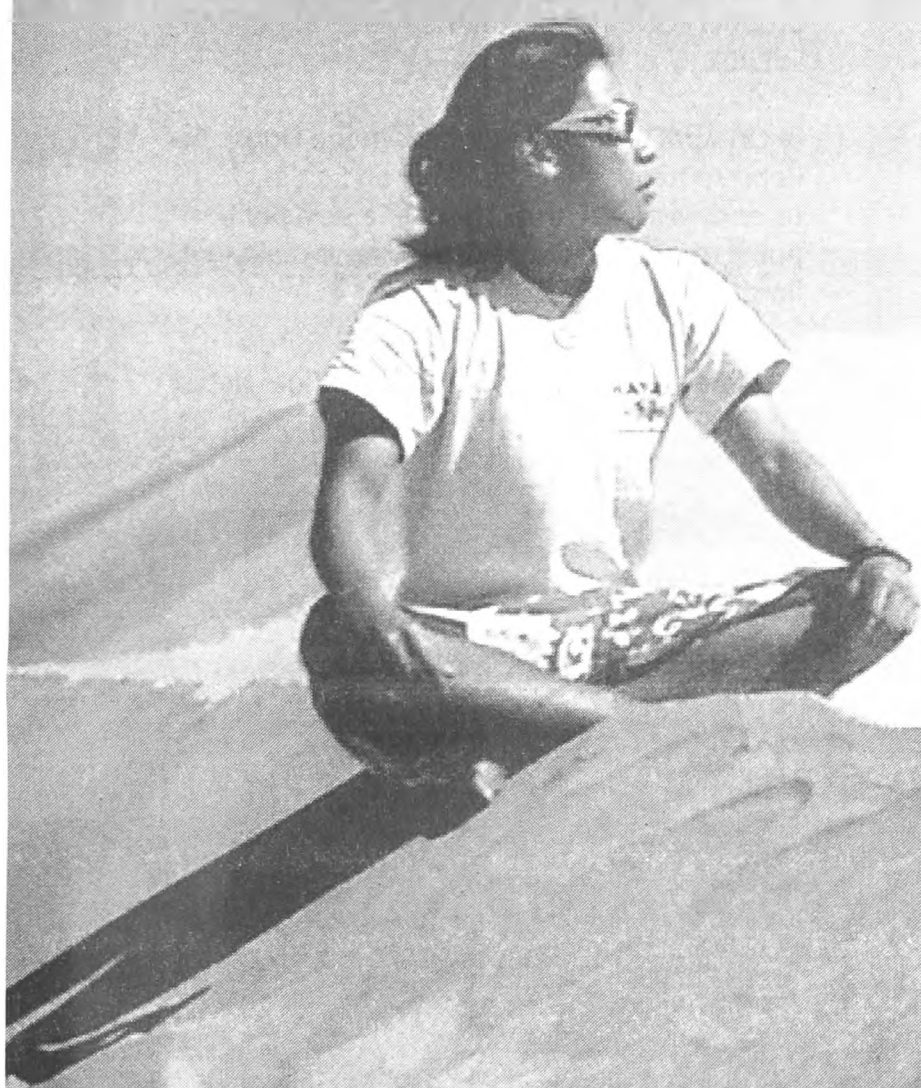
Adams's vibrant speech lifted the crowd into a soaring applause for nearly three minutes.

Later, he was commissioned with an honorary deanship of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel. Adams, who graduated with honors from University of Michigan and Harvard Divinity School, is a member of the Morehouse Board of

Trustees.

Oil portraits were also unveiled during convocation for three of the ten men who were inducted into the Martin Luther King Board of Renaissance Leaders. The portraits are the original work of renowned Korean-born portrait artist Hoeun Chung. Chung has done other paintings for Morehouse College in the past. The paintings feature Emeagwali better known as "the father of the Internet", Rangel and Roberts.

STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS FOR U.S. UNDERGRADUATES



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Features

Campuses Hit Hard by Economic Downturn

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As the country's sagging economy dominates the headlines, college students are being hit in their wallets along with other members of society. Students say they are struggling with higher tuition, gas and food prices and worry that they will be unable to repay student loans after graduation.

With Federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke admitting April 2 that a recession is "possible," while many economists have declared that it has already arrived, many students are looking ahead with dread.

Dante Williams, a senior at Miles College in Alabama, is considering a change of plans. He has financed his education largely through student loans. "I've been thinking about joining the military -- that's still an option -- so that I can get my loans paid off."

Williams said money is tight. "I'm a full-time student, I have an internship, I'm taking 18 hours ... it's hard to put gas in the car ... tuition and room and board have gone up. It affects me negatively."

William Champy Jr., a 58-year-old graduate student at South Carolina State University, said higher prices have had a "very important, but depressing" impact on him.

"I find myself running short of money each month," the retired faculty member and public school teacher adds, noting that the economy may bring his education to a halt. "I am currently not receiving financial aid -- I'm afraid I won't complete school."

Tashana Francis, a South Carolina State senior, is concerned about her ability to repay student loans and said she's been spending less.

"The interest rate seems to be going up but salary does not seem to be," said Francis, 22.

Down in New Orleans, where residents are still recovering from Hurricane Katrina, Harold Mitchell, 21, a Dillard University senior, is also worried about the future.

"I'm concerned about the ability to repay my student loans," Mitchell said. "With the high interest rates suddenly rising, I'm not sure if I will be able to pay my loans back and still have money to live off of."

Mitchell's spending habits have changed. "I am using credit cards less now because of the interest rate. The interest rate is too high on credit cards right now, and if I don't have the cash, then I don't need [to buy] it."

Another Dillard student, Alaina Smith, said gas prices have caused her to change her driving habits. "If I don't have to move my car, I won't. If I can, I definitely try to carpool. It's a waste for everyone to drive



Images: <http://www.floridahomeloan.com>

As the country's sagging economy dominates the headlines, college students are being hit in their wallets along with other members of society. Students say they are struggling with higher tuition, gas and food prices and worry that they will be unable to repay student loans after graduation.

to the store."

Smith, a junior nursing major, said she and her friends are attempting to economize. "We all try to clique together if we are going in the same direction. It will be like eight of us getting out of a five-passenger vehicle but, hey, it's a way to save gas!"

Denna Harrison, a senior at S.C. State, said the declining state of the economy has affected her life in a "major" way.

"If anything, the rise in gas prices has had a major impact on me," said Harrison, who drives an SUV.

Harrison, an elementary education major, added that she is concerned about repaying student loans after she graduates and begins teaching. She also said she has family members who are affected by inflation and unemployment.

"I hope the next president will focus a great deal on how bad our economy is suffering because it's getting a lot worse," Harrison said.

Like Mitchell, other students are limiting their use of credit cards. "I have one credit card and I never use it," said Brittini Dones, a senior at Prairie View A&M University.

Dones said she sees her friends struggling. "I notice my friends having a hard time finding jobs while in school. Since they don't have a part-time job or steady revenue coming in, they don't go places unless it is a necessity."

Clark Atlanta freshman Elizabeth Coburn said the unemployment problem is affecting her on a personal level. "It's really hard to find a job right now I've been looking for a while," she said, adding "there aren't any jobs to find."

Unlike some of the other students who have cut down on credit card use, Secret Spencer, a sophomore at S.C. State, admits she is using her credit cards more.

"The option to pay at a later date gives me more freedom to pay for other things with cash," said Spencer, 20.

She said that not only is she cautious about how much she eats, but her family is also becoming more cautious of how much they consume.

"They are definitely eating less and walking more, which may not be a bad thing."

Not everyone is feeling the pinch. Morehouse freshman James Rawls said the economy hasn't affected him, in part, because he has developed good spending habits, including not owning a credit card. "When you have a credit card you tend to spend money that you don't have and cannot pay back" Rawls said doesn't plan to obtain a credit card until after he graduates.

Rawls, a biology/pre-med major, also said he isn't worried about the future because he plans to become a physician. He points out that "people are always going to need doctors."

And Dervedia Thomas, a sophomore attending S.C. State, said her habits have not changed much. She said even though food prices are too high, she hasn't made any adjustments to her life.

"I still buy what I want," Thomas said. ###

Michelle D. Anderson is features editor of The Maroon Tiger. Dante Mozie is editor in chief of the South Carolina State Collegian. Drew Daniels is an editor of the Dillard University Courtbouillon.

QUICK FACTS on the Economy:

◀ Food prices rose nearly 5 percent in 2007, causing the worst case of food inflation in nearly 20 years. World Bank President Robert Zoellick recently warned that rising food prices are not a temporary phenomenon but likely to persist for several years.

◀ Deep discount carrier Skybus Airlines shut down this month and it plans to file for bankruptcy protection this week. It has become the latest airline to fall because of rising fuel costs and a slowing economy.

◀ The Energy Department's Energy Information Administration has estimated that the national average price of gas will peak this June at approximately \$3.60 per gallon.

◀ Some members of the Federal Reserve expect the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) to shrink in the first half of this year which is the clearest signal yet from the central bank that its members think the economy could be close to entering a recession—if it hasn't already.

◀ The United States economy's gross domestic product (GDP) was estimated as \$13.8 trillion in 2007.

◀ On April 9, 2008, Democrats in the House of Representatives held hearings on Iraq in effort to address what they think is a key political point: the expense of the Iraq war is making it harder for the American economy to rebound.

SOURCES: The Associated Press, Bureau of Economic Analysis, McClatchy-Tribune News Service, CNNMoney.com, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Motor Trend magazine.

REVIEW: Powerful Documentary Examines Race in America

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One of the most unique challenges that Black people in America face is finding a true sense of ethnic identity that speaks to the double consciousness of what makes one African and American.

The process of understanding the social experience of Black people in America has 28 year-old David Wilson on a quest to discover the true meaning of the term "African American."

In the film, "Meeting David Wilson," directed by David A. Wilson and Daniel J. Woolsey, Wilson discusses growing up in a ghetto of Newark, N.J., and realizing that he didn't want to

become a product of his environment. Out of a sincere desire to find something more, he begins to research his family's ancestry.

From his research he finds that not only was he just three generations away from being a slave, but that the slaves in his family were owned by the prestigious Wilson family who operated tobacco plantations from North Carolina to Virginia. However, the most empowering information comes when David Wilson learns of a descendant of the Wilson family—also named David Wilson—and decides to meet him as part of his journey toward self discovery.

"Meeting David Wilson" is an innovative film because it gives the viewer a unique perspective on race. It doesn't simply show how slavery has in many ways complicated the black identity in America, but it also sheds light on how it has affected white Americans as well.

When David Wilson makes the trip to North Carolina, he goes to the tobacco plantation of his ancestors and makes a commitment to work a full day. He vividly described the intense physical

pain of simply working just a few hours in the field whereas for his ancestors that was their daily lives. After having a firsthand account of what his ancestors experienced, Wilson expressed being angry that America and particularly the Wilsons, who owned his family and significantly benefited from free labor.



Image: <http://dsc.discovery.com/>

The great-grandfather of filmmaker, David Wilson, is shown. This ancestor was the last person in Wilson's family to be kept as a slave.

There are several issues of Black identity that the film addresses, but what really gives the film its flavor and color is that it's not afraid to ask the bold questions.

When David Wilson of New Jersey meets the 62-year-old entrepreneur David Wilson, he asked him whether or not he agrees with how his ancestors achieved their legacy and even brings up the issue of reparations.

While some moments seemed tense, the film ultimately was about receiving closure. It provided an empowering and perhaps unexpected message.

"Meeting David Wilson" is highly recommended for all African Americans, but especially for Black youth. Often the media play a large role in attempting to shape and define what "black" is, and most commonly it's negative stereotypes, which in turn, affect the psyche of Black youth.

"Meeting David Wilson" leaves the message that there is a much bigger definition to who we are both as African and American, and that ultimately finding a true sense of self begins with healing and reconciliation. The World premiere of "Meeting David Wilson" is April 11 at 9 p.m. ET on MSNBC. Following the film, there will be a live discussion on race moderated by Brian Williams.

###

The Dream Reborn

◀ Continued from front page

lack of environmental regulation which caused so much damage in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and in the process of rebuilding New Orleans in the aftermath.

"Local people can fight for environmental justice with knowledge and organization," Malek-Wiley said to the crowd as he spoke on community activism.

Concerned about various issues affecting the Black community like obesity, asthma and hazardous construction, the conference addressed these issues while realizing the rift that environmentalists must cross when dealing with people of color.

Richard Merritt, a senior and coordinator for Students Endeavoring for Enlightened Environmental Decisions (S.E.E.E.D.) said that political correctness has hurt the movement because people are afraid to attack the root of the issues.

"Racial tension exists and when there is no space allowed for all to have dialogue on the issues because they're feared as being racist, that creates more

distance. There is a way to have tact to address the issues but sugar coating is dangerous," Merritt said. "In order for us to make the program [relatable] to lower income families, we've had to stress how it is relatable [and] we have to tie it to issues that are important."

As S.E.E.E.D.'s Mobilizations and Events coordinator, Merritt said that he is driven by his ability to expose the issues of climate change, environmental justice and a green economy.

"Right now, with how the Black vote is sought after, we can raise more issues. Right now, Blacks are at the table, but we don't have the same plate."

Senior and S.E.E.E.D. coordinator Marcus Penny said that because the environmental movement is dominated by white privilege, it is easy for non-whites to become tokenized.

"Conferences like this help us to realize that the true measure of your work is in the results, not the promises," Penny said.

Yet, many activists said there is still work to be done because provoking

change requires that the problems go beyond awareness. The Black community must see converting to a green lifestyle as more economically viable and not simply seen as a white thing.

Senior and S.E.E.E.D. coordinator Tony Anderson, along with junior Julius Pryor IV said the issues must be real and that climate work has to be framed in a way that is best understood for everyone.

"Jobs, the asthma rates of people who live close to power plants—you really have to just make it hit close to home," Pryor said.

Anderson added "It has to have a start; there has to be some sort of progress. Every marathon has its first step. But ultimately, winnable, achievable victories are possible. We can become green! Si, se puede! Yes, we can!"

S.E.E.E.D. meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in Wheeler Hall, Rm. 306. It will have its "We Got That Green..." week starting April 20. For more details, find the S.E.E.E.D. group on Facebook.



Recycle The Maroon Tiger

Features

PHOTO ESSAY: A Week at Morehouse

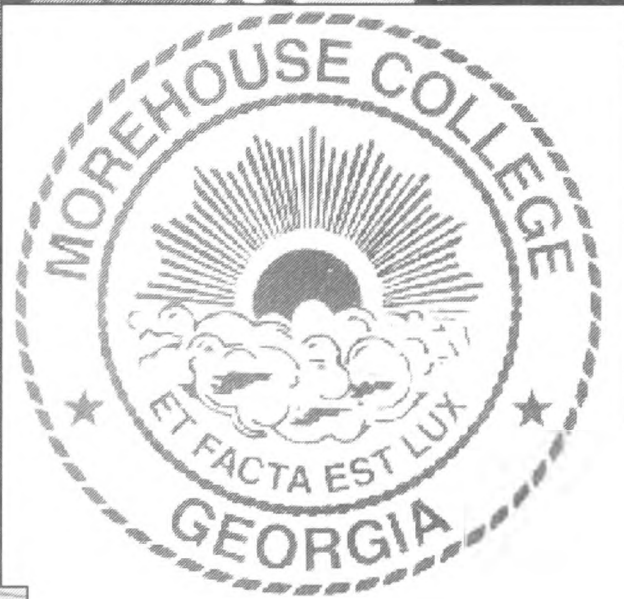
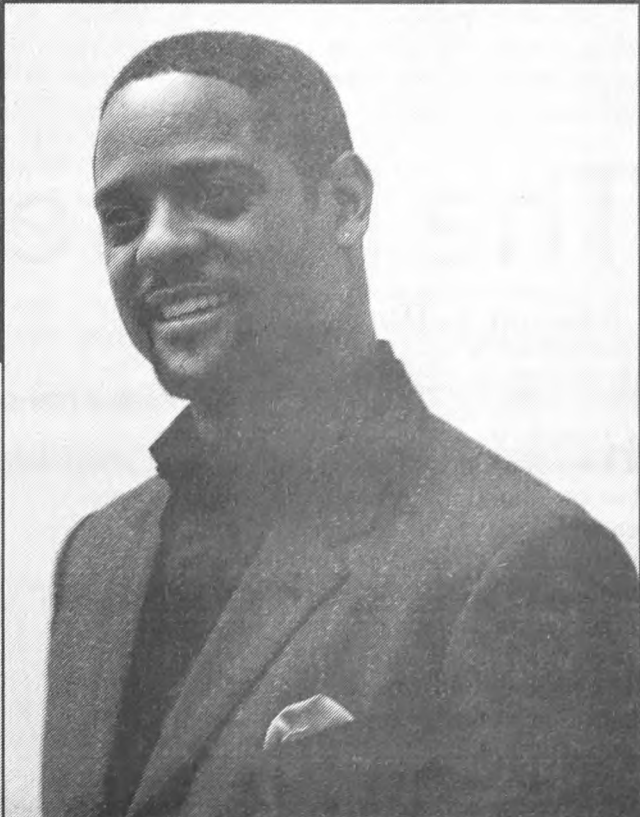
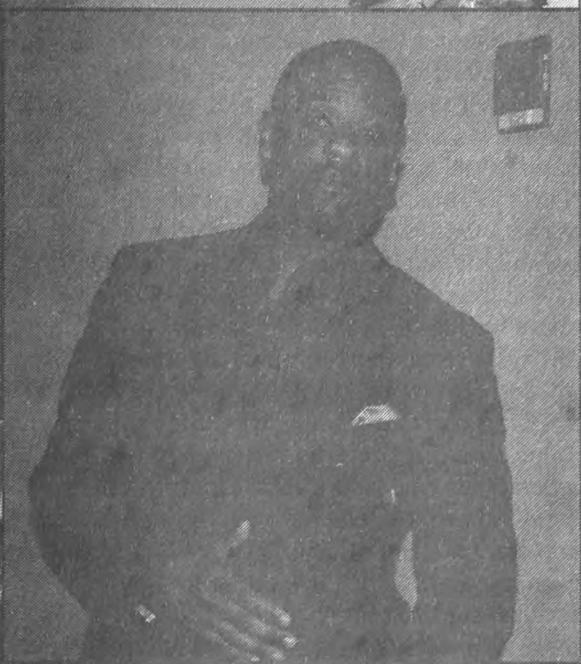
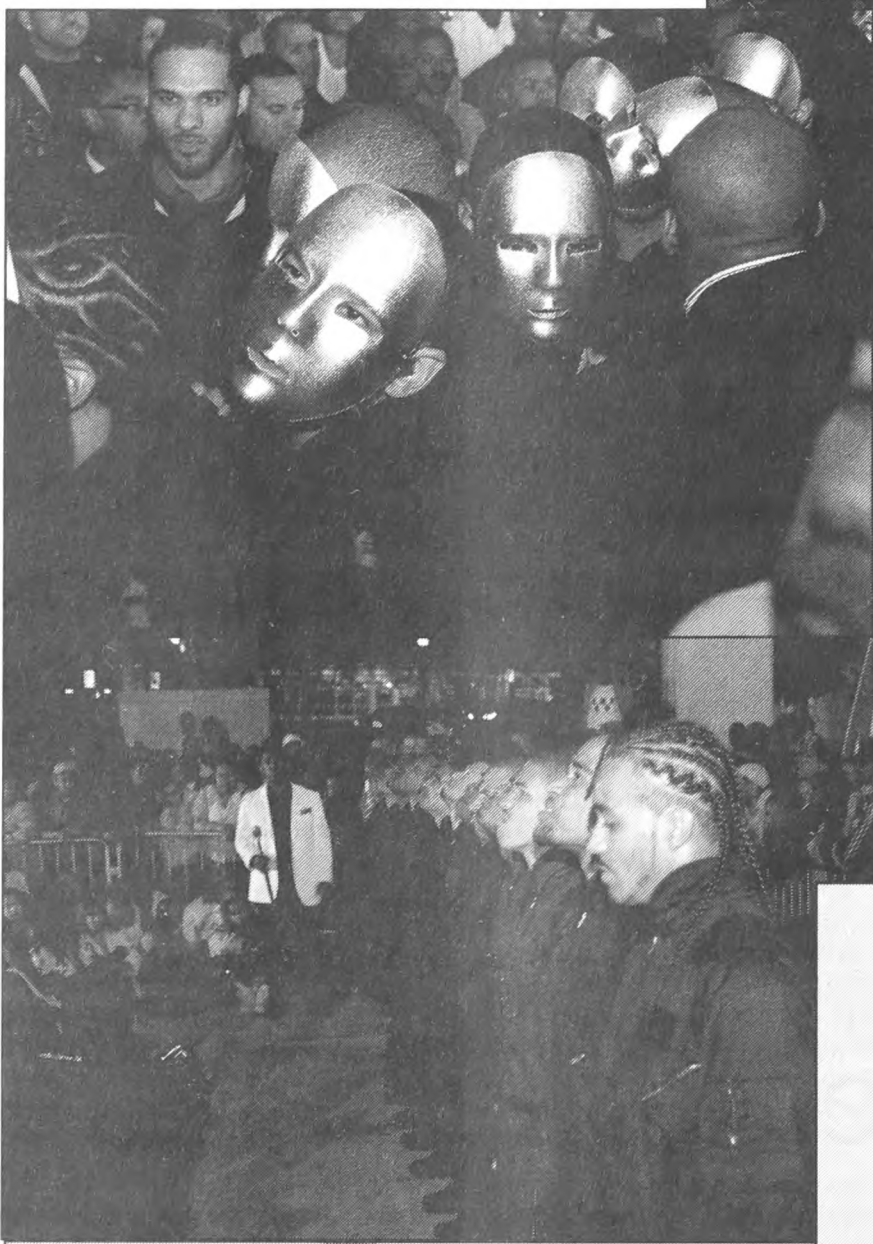
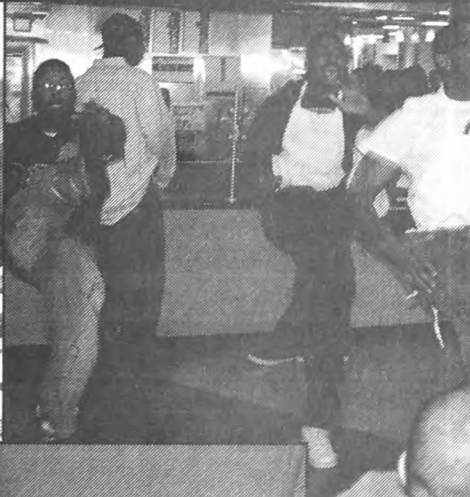
SHOWTIME AT 'DA HOUSE'



Thursday, April 17, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel



All Images: Antoine Lackland II

Correction:

In the front page article "English Students Shine in Departmental Symposium" in last week's issue of The Maroon Tiger, attribution for the writing of the article was mistakenly given to Staff Writer Kevin Mallory. The article's correct author is **Staff Writer Khadijah Robinson**. The Maroon Tiger apologizes for any confusion.

---Staff

Opinions

Looking to the Future

ANTHONY HARRIS
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I write this article as I prepare for a trip to Memphis to commemorate the assassination of famed alumnus, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As 20 Questions noted last week, it is odd that we are commemorating a death, but I get to go to on a weekend trip for twenty bucks so I don't have much of a problem with it. But as I pack for this mini-vacation, I can't help but think about the parallels before me.

I've been freaking out lately thinking about the future. Graduating seniors have 38 days left (yes, the countdown still moves on) and other than sleep, I bet there are a few of us don't quite know what they are doing on Day 39. I can bet there are those around here who have their lives set. They have internships this summer, big jobs, and graduate schools after they graduate. Even those who don't even have to think about these sorts of things for years down the line can have some sense of security.

But when you get right down to it, we're all really lost. When Morehouse tells us we are men, they seem to leave out the perpetual hardship of being a man.

I'm not blaming this on Morehouse --for once--but I'm just talking about the daily trials of being a man.

I spent the last four years trying my best not to ask my parents for anything regarding my general welfare, but I've had a meal plan everyday. I've had a steady job that ensures I have whiskey in moderation, but it's certainly not a living wage. I avoid using credit, but I can never manage to save money. And while I'm honestly better at it than any other time in my life, I can never quite get social skills down.

When we first matriculated into this college (because the Oxford English Dictionary defines "matriculate" as "senses relating to enrollment," not as some sort of enrichment process), we heard many a tale of how Morehouse would make men of us. While this school may have played a part, I can only be thankful that life has taught me so many lessons overall.

I've had good home training, but living in Atlanta has shown I have to apply the lessons my parents have taught me. I learned to write in high school, but I learned to write better and more succinctly in college. I memorized a lot of Biblical doctrine from Rev. Dr. R. L. Archield back at

Friendship Baptist Church in San Antonio, TX, but it all helps in how I interpret Rev. Dr. Aaron Parker's sermons every Sunday at Zion Hill Baptist Church here in Atlanta.

We came here not to become men but to become better men. We did not just become the Men of Morehouse has shaped us to be, but Morehouse in the auspice of life has taught us a great deal about responsibility. Yet while I think about all I have learned over the years, I'm still freaked out about the future.

Do I have doubts about what it will be like when I enter the world for real this time? Of course. Did I not plan as much as I should have? More than likely. Do I have enough knowledge, talent and faith in God that I won't end up homeless? Probably. Am I sure -- No.

But is anyone really sure? I'm scared, frightened by my future. In time, maybe this feeling will dissipate. But when anyone passes me and is amused by my wonderful parlor trick of counting each hour, minute, and second until I graduate, also take note of the trembling I feel as I realize how each second that passes is a moment closer to being pushed from the tattered security blanket that is Morehouse College.

The Future of the Senate

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Recently, questions arose regarding the seeming impotence of the Student Senate. During the Senate's deliberation on the approval of Elections Chairman Michael Nance, President Stanley Onuaha audaciously dictated that you can do whatever you want, but Student Services "supersedes you." He implied that since he held the ear of Student Services, specifically Dean Kevin Rome, his desirers would ultimately prevail. Even elder members of the Senate reluctantly acquiesce, while younger members are swiftly learned of this troublesome reality.

But President Onuaha is right. History validates his claim. Examples of his claim are numerous and readily available. The Senate's policies have been consistently overridden or worse neglected.

Last year's President Marcus Edwards was impeached; he happily served the remainder of his brief term. Edward's Executive Director appointee Christen Perry was rejected by the Senate, but he was widely suspected of serving in his position. Powerful figures can receive money from Student Services despite the Senate's oppositions, and the laws passed are often fatally unenforceable.

This truism starkly contrasts the power inherently given to the Senate through the constitution. The Senate is the largest and most consistently assembled deliberative body on the campus. On parchment, the Senate is the most powerful institutional organization. Few organizations have the

power, structure, memory, and monetary assets held by this body of leaders. Yet few Senators are aware of the depth of their power, and ultimately the Senate's collective power is weakened due to unknowing, unaware, fearful and apathetic members.

The Senate as an institution itself is not powerless, but its members are sometimes paralyzed.

Since its powers are vast, the ability to effectively use this power requires significant energy and leadership abilities. To be an effective senator means possessing a confidence in speaking, competent writing skills, an independent mind, and applicable knowledge of the constitution, general bylaws, election bylaws, Student Governance Code, and Roberts Rules of Order. Senators, who lack even one of these attributes, are often fear speaking out.

Speaking, not just in a literal sense but speaking with their vote. Since the Senate requires voting, members' opinions are either explicitly or implicitly known. This is what distinguishes the Senate from any other body. It forces Senators to make decisions that can affect personal friends' appointments, friends' organizations, and friends' future campus aspiration. Most Senators are often caught between a rock and hard place. Decisions are often taken personally, and the body can destroy otherwise cordial relationships.

Secondly, the power of the Senate is often misinterpreted. Members of the Senate often spend time attempting to regulate the Executive Board and recomposing its governing laws. Much

time is consumed by self-improvement, and little time is left for the general student welfare.

In the past, the Senate's scrupulous, capricious, and sometimes silly behavior raised questions about its overall utility. Its complex meetings were reduced to a tawdry show for students who wanted cheap Tuesday night entertainment. But this year, thanks to Vice President Ryan Shepherd, this image has generally eluded the Senate. He has consistently abated any attempt to retain this image.

With this image fading, the new Senators now have a chance to make real change. In the three years since the former Vice President Ruben Burney enforced the constitution and transformed the Senate into smaller a more effective body, the Senate has endured a tumultuous existence. Three years ago, every piece of legislation dealt with internal regulations. Last year, this lessened and the Senate witnessed members with truculent egos who enjoyed flaunting their talented speaking and lobbying skills. This year all of these idiosyncrasies have lessened, and the new Senators are developing a true passion to help others.

The Senate is learning to not write unenforceable laws, but to write innovative legislation. The new Senators have ideas, to not only appropriate money, but to command the respect of Student Services through constant contact and effective policies. The future of the Senate is not one of impotence—but service.

Jermaine House is completing his second term as a Student Senator.

THE MAROON TIGER

Brandon E. Lawrence , '09
Editor-in-Chief

The Maroon Tiger is published weekly during the academic year at Morehouse College. Our goal is to maintain an independent editorial policy. Opinions expressed in The Maroon Tiger are solely the views of its staff and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Morehouse College, its administration, or The Maroon Tiger advisors. Commentaries solely represent the views of the author and are not necessarily the opinions of The Maroon Tiger. We believe all advertising to be correct but cannot guarantee its accuracy or be responsible for its outcome. The Maroon Tiger welcomes your views on any public issue. We routinely edit letters for space and correct errors in spelling and punctuation. Letters as well as commentaries must be 800 words or fewer and emailed to anthonydeanharris@gmail.com and should include a telephone number.

Racist Nigger-Lovers: Clintons Conceal Their Prejudices by Supporting Black Causes

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When President Kennedy was assassinated there were cities where Americans paraded the streets in celebration. Some people waved Confederate flags and declared the resurgence of the South. There were some that laughed in the faces of Negroes who feared they would relive the Reconstruction period, a veritable nadir in African American race relations. Then there were the makeshift signs: a board was posted above a shop door telling customers it was closed because the nigger-loving President had been assassinated.

I would not dare argue that black Americans owe some expressions or actions of gratitude to allies who have stood for equality and justice throughout American history. However, commendations have rightly been ritualistically offered to white American leaders by black American leaders in recognition of those allies that knowingly choose to incur the wrath of bigots.

Enter Hillary and Bill Clinton (it used to be Bill then Hillary). The Clintons were so loyal and dedicated to what Tavis Smiley calls, "the black agenda" that Bill was our first black President. The dynasty building couple had so mastered the political art of pandering that by the time Sen. Clinton decided to run for President, Black leaders ran to her side to be pet and appointed. The Clintons returned in '08 expecting a return on their sacrificial years of advocacy on behalf of the black community.

During the course of this year's presidential campaign The Clintons have quieted their advocacy of issues of particular importance to black Americans. To the contrary, the Clintons have gone to great lengths to highlight their lifetime efforts to combat racial disparities in, but not limited to, health and education as they lose ground among black voters with each passing caucus and primary.

The Clintons anxiety over the potential loss to Sen. Obama has driven the couple to desperate tactics that are absolutely racist. The Clinton campaign's references to Sen. Obama's youthful drug use and middle name, President Clinton's reduction of Sen. Obama's South Carolina

Primary victory to something analogous to the Jackson campaign of the 80s, and Rep. Ferraro's injection of race into the discourse are examples of the Clintons' tactics of racial fear mongering.

The most recent racially implicative action was the 3 am political ad: a vulnerable white mother checks on her peacefully sleeping children, while fearing that the person who answers the red emergency telephone at the White House may be a --black man. The shadows, the background music and the raspy male over voice anticipate the sudden intrusion of the black man: but luckily it is the face of Hillary that closes out the ad.

Some would venture to assert that these actions committed by the Clinton campaign, and at the very least condoned by the Clintons, are not racist because they do not express a belief in the inferiority of Obama as a presidential candidate as a result of his race. Yet, these actions are racist because they manipulate Americans' apprehension regarding Sen. Obama's otherness, or blackness, into a tool for empowering the Clinton campaign.

To give them the benefit of the doubt one might defend the Clintons in proposing that their intentions were not to evoke the prejudices of some white Americans. One should further give the duo the benefit of the doubt in affirming their intelligence and their ability to foresee the racial implications of their methods, and still yet their desperation drove them to do it anyhow.

I remain stalwart in the Clintons' commitment to the advancement of black Americans. This is why it saddens me to see two people I admired so much become so desperate in their pursuit of power that they would disregard not just the sacrifices they made but the people they made them on behalf of.

Sen. Clinton and President Clinton have taken advantage of their white privilege and, along with the likes of Sean Hannity, intensified a racially charged nation for their benefit. It only requires one act at one moment for any person to be racist, if only for that one moment. I thank the Clintons, like the Kennedys for bracing the fateful tribulation of a nigger-lover; however, having the track record of a nigger-lover doesn't make you immune to being racist.

Why Is That Brotha' With That White Girl? Will Interracial Dating Ever Be Cool?

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Just picture it. You're walking down the street and you see a black guy who seems to be totally immersed in the hip hop culture -- I mean jeans saggin', fitted cap on, brand new Jordans, the whole nine. Then you look at the girl hanging off his arm and you're shocked by this white girl, one step away from being an Abercrombie & Fitch model. Immediately you think, what the ---? Why are we so jolted when we see this supposedly mismatched couple?

In previous centuries, interracial dating and marriage have been outlawed and despised in many cultures. Almost everywhere, racial separation, no matter how superficial, occurs.

Upon what reasons are these prejudices founded? Two hundred years ago, it would boil down to blatant racism and racial purism. A black man couldn't marry a white woman because racist whites would lynch him. Any child of mixed heritage had to be grouped with blacks to keep the white race "pure."

Lynching now belongs to the past, yet interracial marriages still have their problems. Many people reason that interracial marriages add more problems to those already present in any marriage,

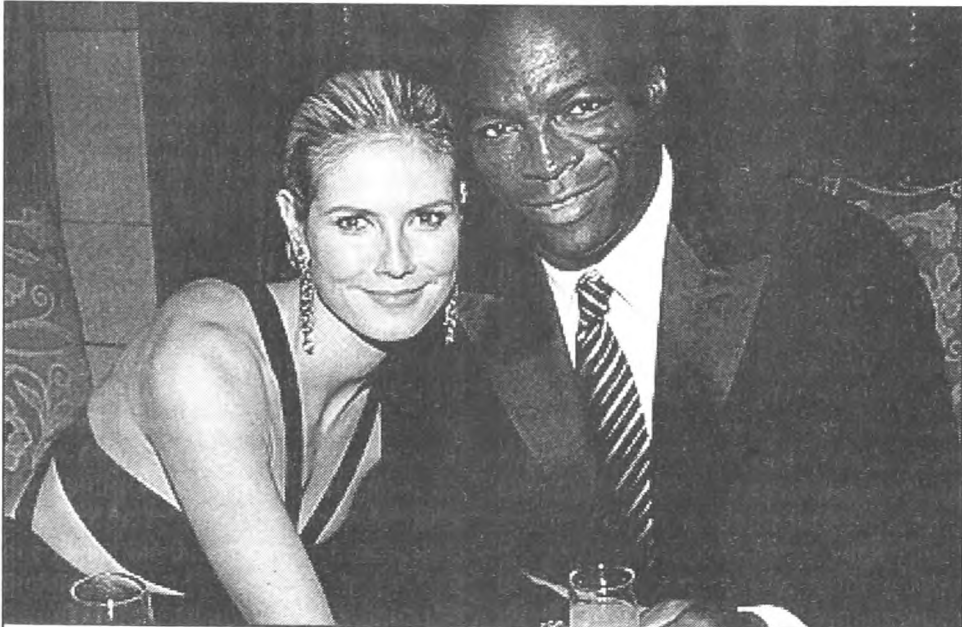


Image: Focus Features
Although interracial couples like Heidi Klum, left, and Seal are becoming more and more accepted in today's society, interracial dating and relationships still cause conflicts and suffer from judgment.

making things unnecessarily hard for the couple and their family. Many blacks think that marrying a white person is selling out or being a traitor to your people. They question how anyone can uplift blacks while professing love to a white. Others have almost a reverse racism slant, saying that we should never join together with the "oppressor."

Many whites have qualms with interracial marriage as well. They have

plenty of black friends but they don't think their children should marry "them." These "practical" whites worry about the effects being biracial will have on the children. They worry about job security, safety and other bad things because "some people aren't as accepting as we are." These are the parents who disown their children for being so stupid as to marry outside their race.

Years ago, similar problems were raised

when examining marriages between economic and social classes. But most modern Americans would think it stupid to hinder a marriage because one person is rich and the other poor. Now, why is it valid to object if one person is white and the other black?

And what about other heritages? About.com reports that, "In a 2003 Ford poll of 1,314 Americans of varied races, 3 in 10 reported they were against black-white marriage, but were more willing to accept white-Hispanic or white-Asian marriages." Black people like to say that this is because the Hispanics or Asians weren't slaves or enslavers. But their ancestors were treated so badly by the whites that they might as well have been. What about Native Americans? They were dealt the worst hand by the whites but is it still more acceptable for them to marry a white than for a black person?

Racial purists would argue that it is all about keeping the races pure, somewhat reminiscent of Adolf Hitler. But what is racial purity in America? Scientifically and aesthetically, it just doesn't exist. Studies show that our DNA is more than 99 percent the same and our physical differences are simply a practical result of our development in different regions of the world. Now, we are all co-developing in the United States, so isn't it natural for our cultures to change and merge and for

our physical attributes to become more and more similar (through intermarriage or through natural evolution).

What does a "real" white person look like? A "real" black? And a "real" Hispanic? What about a "real" Asian? Most of us would say something stupid and generic and completely uninformed. Such as Asians are yellow with slanted eyes. A Cambodian person looks the same as a Japanese person? For all we know, they do. For all we know.

First, we try to push people into categories. Then we try to dictate their lives based on these categories. Shame on Tiger Woods for saying he's not black. His dad is half black, so he must be black -- right? Or is it because he LOOKS black that he must claim his blackness? But no one forces Mariah Carey to claim her blackness and her father was completely black, if that's possible. But she doesn't LOOK black.

What the hell is race? It isn't real scientifically, but if I can be given or denied a job because of my "race," it must be real. Of course, everyone thinks that job positions should be determined regardless of race. But not marriage. Love, compatibility, goals and aspirations -- these supposedly have nothing to do with marriage.

It's all about what ethnicity box your children will check when they take the SAT.



Recycle The Maroon Tiger

Arts, Etc.

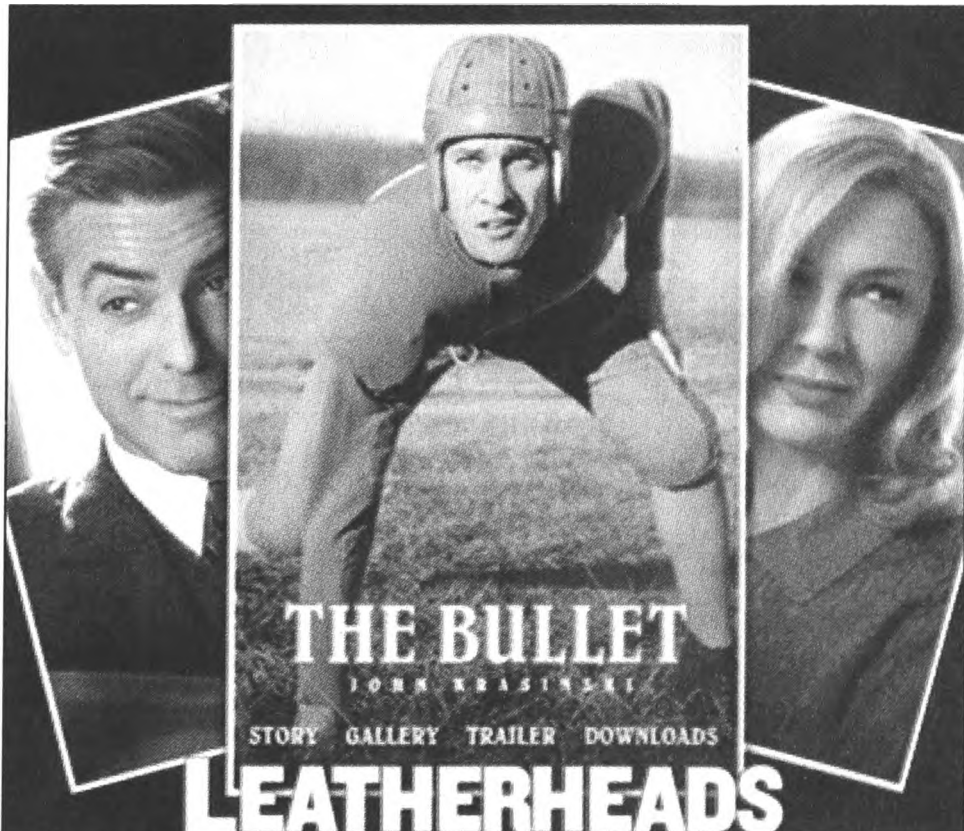
Film Review: Leatherheads

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I didn't know until after watching "Leatherheads" that it was possible to have nostalgia for a time I never experienced. Flappers, Barbershop Quartets and Speak Easies only read about in Al Capone biographies became as comfortable and familiar to me as the couch in my living room. I expected to see a funny film starring a charismatic George Clooney and I got that. What I didn't expect was a trip back in time that was actually fun.

In 1925, collegiate football gained the attention of thousands while the National Football League gained the attention of about ten. The Duluth Bulldogs, suffering bankruptcy from low turn out, disbanded leaving blue collar Joes, who played for the fun of the game, to return to their high schools, coal mines, and farm fields. Having no other skills in life, star player Dodge Conley, played by George Clooney, hatches a plan to reunite his team and revive the world of professional football.

He enlists the help of a popular Medal of Honor holding war hero Carter "The Bullet" Rutherford played by John Krasinski. Simultaneously, smart talking news reporter, Lexie Littleton, played by Renee Zellweger, follows the two using her wit and charm to investigate the truth of Carter's celebrated status. From here the story follows the love triangle among the three as professional football transforms



If love is a game, who'll make the first pass?

Image: <http://www.givememyremote.com>

into a commercial beast.

The film's biggest strength is that it is genuinely funny. The audience constantly rooted for the Bulldogs, though they were a band of notorious cheaters. Their actions on the field and in a bar were comically indistinguishable. The quick witty dialogue that occurs between Doge and Lexie is zestful and bitingly witty. They quickly

break through the others' pretentious disposition in an unforgettable scene where they meet for the first time. The film's heavy use of slapstick humor is however occasionally taken overboard. One scene involving a chase from a Speak Easy is so ridiculous it is reminiscent of Scooby Doo.

This is the third time Clooney has

taken us back through time. The film's setting, clothing and colors never break the constant 1920's dream that Clooney created. Mannerisms and the language of the film can be burdensome. The score is composed by Randy Newman and covers a gamut of emotions. From a woeful ballad sang by soldiers headed to Germany, to gleeful college rally calls before a game they were powerful. Newman even personally plays one of his songs on screen and stopping momentarily to smash a drunkard's head with a wine bottle.

Former Sports Illustrated writers Duncan Brantley and Rick Reilly wrote the original screenplay for the film. Brantley and Reilly intended the film to be a classic historical drama. However, it wasn't until George Clooney, rewrote, directed and starred in the film that it became a screwball comedy. Staying loyal to the genre, the movie juggled numerous themes: the glorification of heroes, the dirty dealings of sports agents, the rules of organized leagues, and more. Occasionally subplots spur with the prowess of a drunken clown. Ironically, little time is spent playing football. Football games are the slowest sections of the film.

"Leatherheads" added an interesting flower in a spring that has been blooming cinematic weeds. It brings back an old twist to a new era of film, but most importantly keeps modern audiences interested. Remember this is not a sports film, it's a comedy. Slapstick and screwball humor never cease to be funny, and Clooney proves just that.

Untitled Poem

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she's sitting on the other side
of what used to be my sanity,
right after the moment
before i remembered
what got us in this tub
to begin with.

and i'm distracted by the flicker--
candle light glowing--
illuminating a face that's
shamefully
too far a distance
from my own.

and as if the unavoidable miles
of morning didn't provide enough
of my tears
to fill our cruise boat,
our row boat,
our hand made raft,
on top of that
she wants to talk.

[there are no paddles
in our game called love.
only the hope that maybe the
wind
will work out in my favor
this evening
and won't blow out the only light
keeping her perfection
in amber-colored clarity.]

she's going over what
i've heard over
a million times before
and i'm watching the droplets on
her temple
slide down, collect, and fall.
if only...
to locate that pause key
on the giant keypad of time.

i'd shape shift into anything;
become the water around her,
warm and soothe in ways
my listening ears could never
accomplish.
swim into her and find spots
my fingers don't know exist yet.
sustain her and maintain her,
never leaving these bathtub walls.

but for now...
she's sitting on the other side,
lips wet and ready to speak
her new life into existence.

while the candle and i...
we're listening,
balancing the boat
and throwing wishes at the wind.

Soul-Xploitation

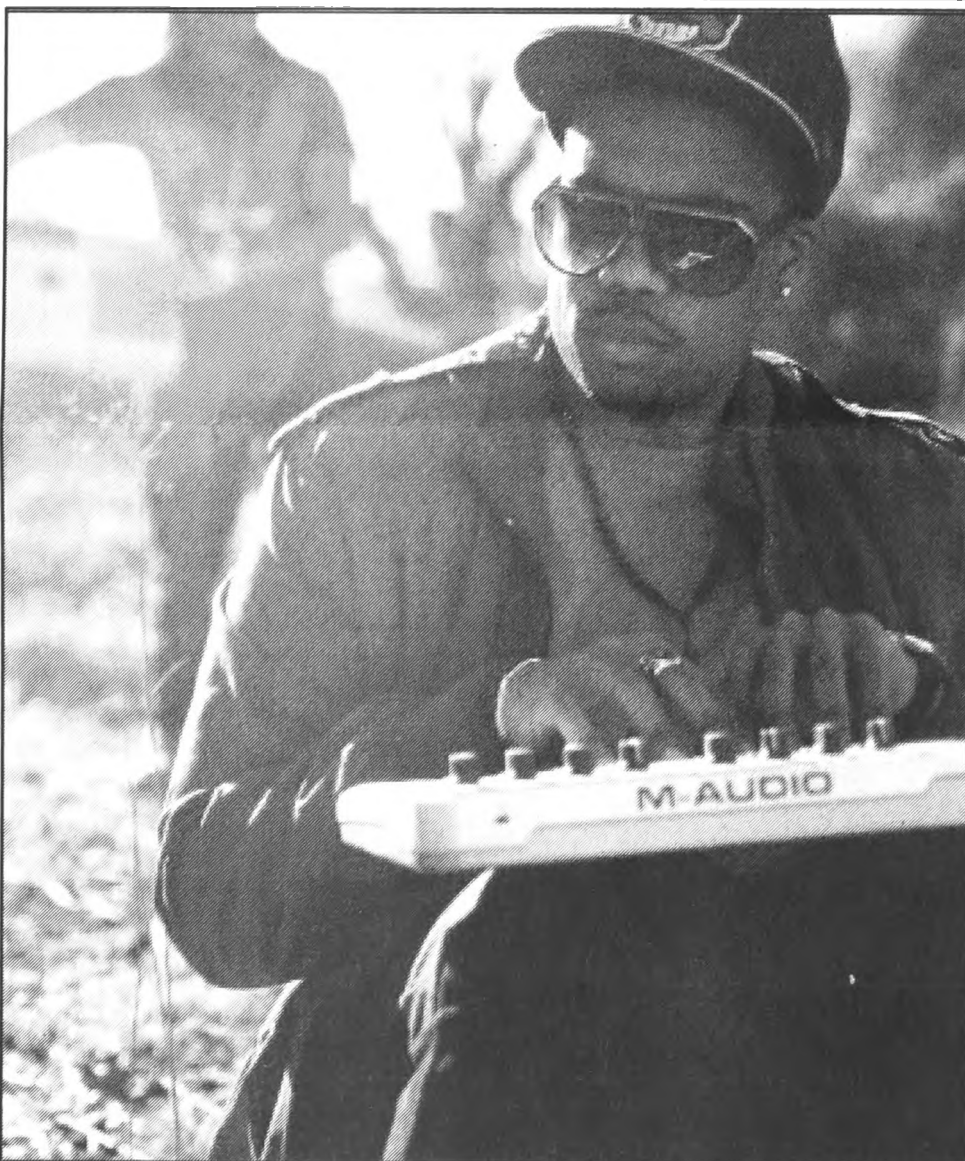
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Behold Atlantic University Center students, the eclectic styles of Lamone "Soulklap" Green! Hailing from Solon, Ohio is Morehouse's own. You've seen him perform at Jazzman's, but now he is advancing his lyrical talents to a digitally recorded album "Soul- Xploitation", which can be found on iTunes sometime around the second week of April and is extending his showcase to Emory University and WSTU Idol: Campus Search. Senior student of Morehouse College, Lamone Green has been passionate about music for years.

Completing his album since his sophomore year, Lamone has been working in studios for two years in his spare time. Between being an Economics major with a Spanish minor and enduring his senior year, it's amazing that 'Soulklap' has time to produce an album. Luckily he has AJ Josey as a co-executive producer to assist him sell beats to other upcoming

artists. Under their label Soul Journey Productions, Lamone 'Soulklap' was able to create songs that cater to the issues that many college students face. As a student himself, he has undergone matters such as "long distance relationships" he says and "procrastinating in the library when you know you should be studying"

In an interview with The Maroon Tiger, he was asked what was the inspiration of the album title, behind a casual smile he explained, "The title says it all." He said, "It's the exploitation of the soul through music." Described as a soul-based sound, Lamone's music relates to a combined genre of hip-hop and neo-soul. Inspired by artists such as Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder, Lamone 'Soulklap' has achieved a sound similar to hip-hop artists Kanye West and Jay-Z. Ironically, Lamone 'Soulklap' used to be referred to as a H.O.V because of his similar appearance to rapper Jay-Z. To find out more information about Lamone 'Soulklap' Green and his upcoming album, log onto myspace.com/souljourneyproductions.



Lamone "Soulklap" Green.

Image: Courtesy



Writers of the Week

April 2-8, 2008

Congratulations to

Associate Opinions Editor

Alexander P. Brown

for his article 'Congratulations! You Look Like a Hipster'

&

Contributing Writer

Frank Lee Jr.

for his article 'Morehouse Back on the Right Track After Losing Streak'

Brother2Brother Talent Show

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Talent is defined as an unusual natural ability to do something well. It is a rare quality to have and when found and recognized it can be something beautiful. At Wednesday's concert and talent show, there was an enormous amount of this unusual natural ability gracing the stage. Morehouse "Brother2Brother: Music 4 the Future" Sinfonian Scholarship Fund hosted talent from different artistic genres.

The opening act was a performance from the dance group, who goes by Footwork. They exploded on the stage with exceptional moves to songs such as Janet Jackson's "Feedback." From beginning to end Footwork managed to sustain the audiences' attention by challenging themselves with every move.

Although there was a vast amount of talent, there were only a few who shined brighter than the others. Jordan Minter was the only female representative within the testosterone-driven talent showcase, singing, "I Don't Know About Tomorrow." Her angelic voice was strong and held each note to a "T." Jordan's demeanor evoked confidence as she sang her heart

out, sounding like a young soon-to-be Patti LaBelle.

Adam MacFarland brought a distinct talent to the showcase. With his Omega Psi Phi brother by his side, their presentation captivated the audience before any musical ballad could be heard. With their well-fitted suits, accompanied by their signature gold boots, their outfits were the first things to mesmerize the audiences' senses.

Finally, out came the delightful sounds of a violin easing any stress you had prior to the performance: Then a piano became the background sound balancing off the beautiful music of the violin. Suddenly, both young men abruptly stopped, giving enough time for the audience to question their next move. Then they ended their performance with an old-fashioned Omega Psi Phi routine with their fellow brothers in the audience.

Fusion displayed what hip-hop used to be. Fusion brought a lyrical and R&B persona to the talent show. They had musical instruments such as drums, a piano and a saxophone to complement their voices saturating the surroundings. Their first performance was a recurrence of NeYo's "Do You." With both young men singing with their mind, body and

soul, Ne-Yo himself would have been very proud. Their next performance was another recurrence but of Phil Collin's "Air of the Night." All I can say is speechless. Every female present kept saying, "They're singing to me."

Last, but definitely not least, was the performance of Mr. Clarence Johnson and his jazz band. Every instrument complemented each other while they gave an instrumental rendition of Snoop Dogg's "Sexual Seduction." The music was smooth and charming. During "Sexual Seduction," Mr. Johnson delivered the best performance with a soprano saxophone. Snoop Dogg himself would have given all honors and praises to the musical bliss that satisfied the audience. Their next performance produced a more upbeat vibe from one of the Miles Davis collections. The performance came with a switch in saxophones. Mr. Johnson went from a soprano to a tenor saxophone. The audience was hypnotized by the beautiful sounds.

Overall, the event and concert were overwhelmed with talent. Each performer delivered pieces with 110 percent liveliness. With determination, they all can make a living with their talent.

Sports

Morehouse Soccer Lovers Set Sights on a Rebirth

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Atlanta November 5, 2003 –Fear still continues to haunt the Morehouse Maroon Tigers Soccer Team. During fall 2003 the NCAA handed down arguably its stiffest penalty to the Morehouse soccer program. Based on the “lack of institutional control,” the NCAA placed Morehouse on five years probation for multiple major infractions including eligibility, financial aid and clearinghouse certification violations. Though the players involved dates back to the late 1990’s, current students, staff, and administrators are faced with the task of bringing men’s soccer back to Morehouse and the Atlanta University Center.

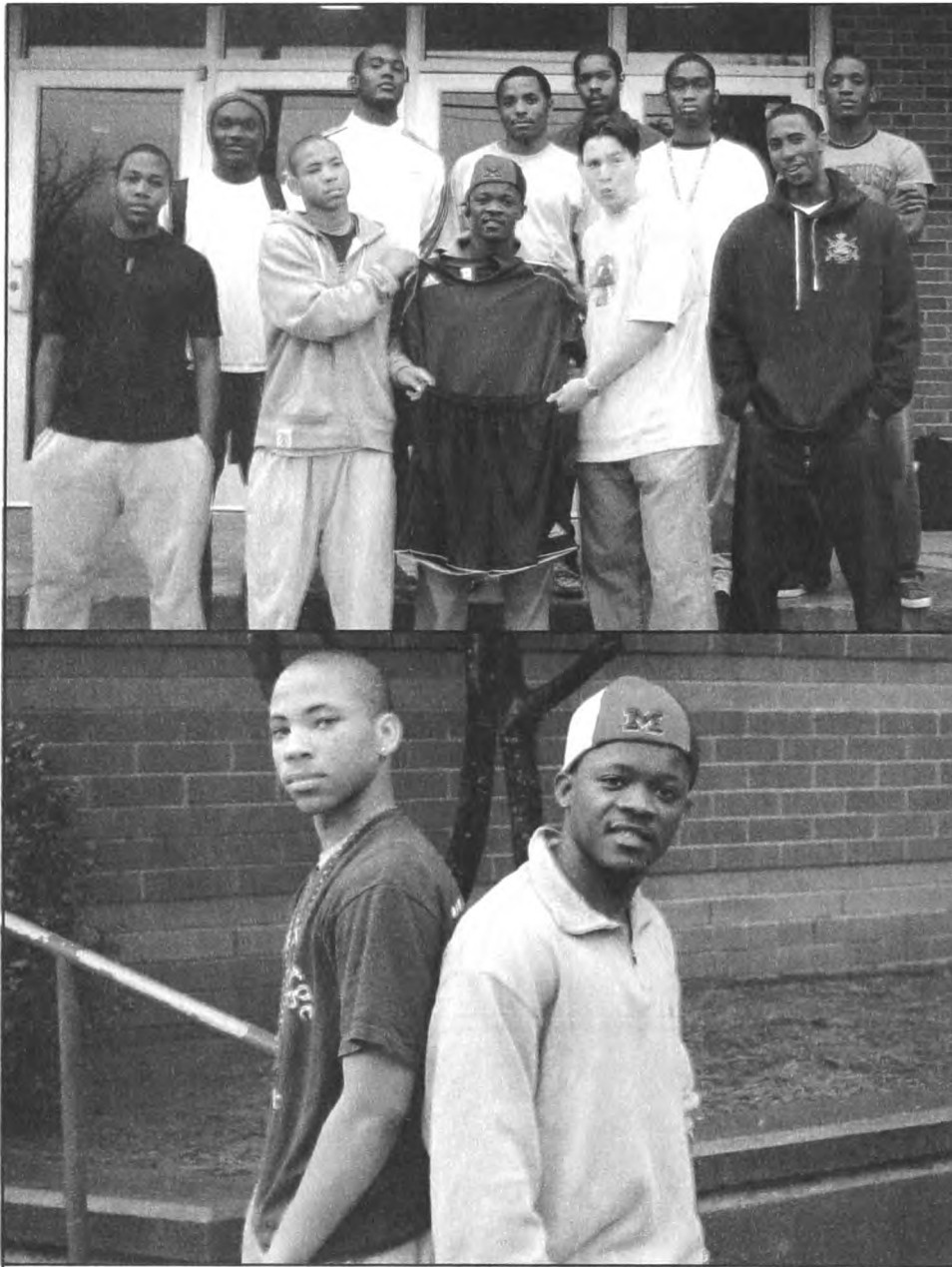
Renaissance Men of Morehouse are uniting in a grassroots fashion to begin the uphill battle of restoring campus soccer. The first step has been to create a soccer club and make way for intramurals, which are under way here in the spring of 2008. Sophomore English major Sedeke Dukuly is hopeful the group’s efforts will garner enough attention to build a collegiate team for the upcoming academic year.

“We are doing this to raise the awareness of the need for a Morehouse soccer team,” Dukuly said. “Raising the ban is one thing, but we hope the administration will seek to redevelop a school affiliated soccer team.”

Before the infractions, Morehouse soccer possessed a winning team led by many of its international students. According to a USA Today report, two Maroon Tigers representing the soccer team had knowingly played professional soccer for the Atlanta Ruckus, a team affiliated with the United Soccer Leagues’ A-League. Despite Morehouse’s status as a Division II, non national championship eligible team, the NCAA decided to hand-down a penalty. The penalty is only rivaled by the “death penalty” slapped on the Southern Methodist football program in 1987.

With this year’s fresh soccer club, its founding members hope their efforts will spark a movement on campus and with the NCAA. Gideon Townsend, a native of the Metropolitan DC area is a member of the soccer club, and says that the school has paid its debt and deserves a second chance.

“We started the club with a goal in



Images: Antoine Lackland II
Morehouse students mobilize in an effort to diversify the sports program.

mind that will bring back the Morehouse soccer team,” Townsend said. “The ban is up, so why can’t we do just that?”

There is no set timetable for rebirth for the college’s soccer program. However, the NCAA did include provisions and guidelines for the school to follow during and after the probationary period, which ends the fall. According to the 2003 official NCAA news release, Morehouse has been required to develop and implement a general educational program on NCAA legislation and submit periodic reports to the NCAA. In addition to other compliance standards set forth, Morehouse president Robert Franklin is to submit a letter to

the review committee affirming that the institution’s current athletic policies and practices align with NCAA regulations.

“There is a need for a soccer team for the overall development of the Morehouse student body. This is not just an international student thing. The club and a new soccer program will positively affect the entire student body,” Dukuly added.

Despite the grim outlook from the original embarrassment, the work of Dukuly and other current students is on course to right a wrong. A wrong that dealt a devastating blow to a proud soccer program housed at the College.

Maroon Tiger Football Team Closes Promising Spring

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Spring was rewarding and productive for coach Richard Freeman’s staff and team.

“I think we’re doing well,” he said at the conclusion of the annual Spring Football Inter-Squad Scrimmage. Despite a consistent but light drizzle, over 100 students, faculty, staff and family from the Atlanta University Center attended.

Freeman’s squad has already proven that it is capable of performing, as evidenced by a 7-3 season and a plethora of SIAC and NCAA honors. But they’ve also distinguished themselves in several other ways as well. For example, this past week the football program coordinated a week where they reaffirmed their camaraderie, gave motivational talks at two elementary schools and showcased their development from last season.

“I wanted to make sure I gave guys who hadn’t had tape a chance to be evaluated,” Freeman said. “Players picked their own teams and they were able to find out what their teammates thought of them.”

The scrimmage featured the Maroon Squad and the White Squad. The Maroon squad played stifling defense and scored twice, once toward the end of the first half and again in the second half with the able running of Christian Green and the apt hands of wide receiver Achille Hendje. The White Squad was challenged by a lack of depth on the offensive and defensive lines but worked hard to display their skills, though they did not score.

“Our squad did fabulously today,” offensive tackle Nate Nobles said. “We came out with a very strategic draft plan by drafting the upfront big boys first, who make sure the offense can function.”

White Squad offensive guard and defensive tackle Tristan Taylor said, “We had a good spring and everybody put in hard work. Though the score didn’t end up in our favor, we fought and stood up, particularly on defense.”

Of his dual role on both sides of the ball, he said, “We had to sacrifice for our team to perform well, though it was hard to get footing solid and plant...I’ve lost a few pounds playing in the mud.”

Soon to be alumni, former Maroon Tiger players Ray Shackelford, Carlos King, Terrance Davis and Djuan Payne were in attendance. As each was preparing for grad school, the NFL draft or teaching, they expressed their pride in their program and their hope for its continued growth.

The scrimmage also seemed to excite those who were injured and thus unable to participate. Standout sophomore defensive back Quintin Ramos, stalwart defensive lineman Jamal James and talented defensive end Da’Juan Holmes were eagerly studying each play and anticipated great success next season with their contributions to the team. Take note that each of these three men are members of the defense. Shackelford asserted that defense would again be one of the more pronounced strengths of the 2008-2009 Maroon Tiger Football Team.

Thus, the spring has begun its closure in Tiger Town. With only a few weeks remaining in the year, many on the squad look forward to finishing out a good semester in the classroom and readying themselves for the season. Truly this group of men are the Ambassadors of the Renaissance Torch as they seek to advance the legacy of Morehouse by excelling in the classroom, engaging community and entering the glory gridiron with dignified victory in all sectors.

2 Wins 2 Losses



Image: Courtesy
The members of the Morehouse College Maroon Tigers Baseball Team.

◀ Continued from front page

“We must keep up our morale and keep our spirits high heading into the tournament,” Cousins said. “Keeping our spirits high is very important and finishing the season strong is a must. Our chances look promising if we can do these things.”

Mitchell said, “We need to hit better with runners in scoring position. We need to get some sturdier pitching from other

players besides Hank McCladdie and Mike Brooks. We have played well lately, but we are going to have to play better on both sides of the ball heading into this tournament.”

The Morehouse Maroon Tigers baseball team will face Florida A&M University and Clark Atlanta to conclude the season before entering the SIAC Tournament.

Track Members Go Far Beyond the Distance

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To the ordinary eye, the Morehouse track and field team may seem like your average track team that goes to daily practice and competes at the meets. That is not the case with this team. With positive influence and impact from their coach, these talented young student athletes also invest their time in giving back to the community.

“I volunteer at Charles Drew Charter School, which is a local elementary school here in Atlanta,” senior Garry Kennebrew Jr. said passionately. “If we’re needed we volunteer as track officials for the Atlanta Public School District.”

From week to week, you cannot just find these men in one location.

“On Tuesdays and Thursdays some of us volunteer at the YMCA at Georgia State where they house the homeless, drug addicts and people who life has just beaten them up,” senior Marquis Taylor-Horn said. “We come in and clean up after them, but most importantly we talk to them.”

From elementary schools to homeless shelters, they work all over the Atlanta area serving others to the best of their abilities. The person who provides them with these opportunities is head coach Willie Hill.

“Coach Hill has allowed me to see the desperate need of positive role models in our society,” Kennebrew said. “The elementary school kids around here have no guidance or role models. They need help and change. Coach has showed me the call for leadership and the role that I



Images: Antoine Lackland II
Members of the Morehouse College Track and Field Team.

need to play as a community leader.”

For some of the team, Hill has become much more than a coach for them.

“Coach Hill is like another dad to me,” junior John “Big Country” Mitchell said. “He is a really spectacular man. He has instilled into me a lot of things that makes me the man that I am and the man I want to be. Our program gives us a lot of opportunity to talk about things that we wouldn’t usually talk about as athletes.”

Every day before the team hits the field to practice, Hill sets aside time for them all to meet and talk about what is going on in each of their lives. It is a time where they can express the good or the bad things in their lives.

“We have meetings every day before practice where we can release what we are feeling that day,” Taylor-Horn said. “Some students even come to the meetings who aren’t even a part of the track team; the meetings will change their lives. When we come in there, we talk about our real life

problems. Coach Hill changes people’s lives for the better and he is awesome.”

Some would wonder why Hill has his students complete community service, especially if they do not have to. For him it is about values and what he can teach his students about them.

“The biggest value that I try to instill in them is what they need to try and do for the young people who are coming behind them,” Hill said. “It’s about what we can do to make a difference for them, just like someone made a difference for us at one time. My students are young men who are trying to do something better for themselves and for the people that surround them.”

“It is not always what you can do for yourself, but what you can do for other people around you that will make you a better person. Something happens every day that someone has done for us that we do not look at that makes us a better person.”



Recycle The Maroon Tiger

